

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y , A P R I L 25 , 1799 .

By his Excellency
BENJAMIN OGLE, Esquire,
GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND.

WHEREAS the following proclamation, signed by the president of the United States, has been transmitted to me by the secretary of state, for the information of the people of this state, I have therefore thought proper to order and direct that it be published every day for the space of two weeks, in the Maryland Gazette, at Annapolis, the Federal Gazette, at Baltimore, the Rights of Man, at Frederick-town, and in the Easton paper.

Given under my hand, at the city of Annapolis, this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

BEN. OGLE.

By the governor,
NINIAN PINKNEY, clerk
of the governor and council.

BY THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
A PROCLAMATION.

AS no truth is more clearly taught in the volume of inspiration, nor any more fully demonstrated by the experience of all ages, than that a deep sense and a due acknowledgment of the governing providence of a Supreme Being, and of the accountableness of men to Him as the searcher of hearts and righteous distributor of rewards and punishments, are conducive, equally, to the happiness and rectitude of individuals and to the well being of communities; as it is, also, most reasonable in itself, that men who are made capable of social acts and relations, who owe their improvements to the social state, and who derive their enjoyments from it, should, as a society, make their acknowledgments of dependence and obligation to Him who hath endured them with these capacities, and elevated them in the scale of existence, by these distinctions; as it is, likewise, a plain dictate of duty, and a strong sentiment of nature, that in circumstances of great urgency and seasons of imminent danger, earnest and particular supplications should be made to Him who is able to defend or to destroy; as, moreover, the most precious interests of the people of the United States are still held in jeopardy, by the hostile designs and insidious arts of a foreign nation, as well as by the dissemination among them of those principles subversive of the foundations of all religious, moral, and social obligations, that have produced incalculable mischief and misery in other countries; and as, in fine, the observance of special fasts for public religious solemnities, is happily calculated to avert the evils which we ought to deprecate, and to excite to the performance of the duties which we ought to discharge,—by calling and fixing the attention of the people at large to the momentous truths already recited, by affording opportunity to teach and inculcate them by animating devotion and giving to it the character of a national act;—For these reasons, I have thought proper to recommend, and I do hereby recommend accordingly, that Thursday, the 25th day of April next, be observed, throughout the United States of America, as a day of solemn humiliation, fasting and prayer.—That the citizens, on that day, abstaining as far as may be from their secular occupations, devote the time to the sacred duties of religion, in public and in private: That they call to mind our numerous offenses against the most High GOD, confess them before him, with the sincerest penitence, implore his pardoning mercy, through the great Mediator and Redeemer, for our past transgressions, and that, through the grace of his Holy Spirit, we may be disposed and enabled to yield a more suitable obedience to his righteous regulations, in time to come: That he would interpose to arrest the progress of that impiety and licentiousness in principle and practice, so offensive to himself, and so ruinous to mankind: That he would make us deeply sensible that our righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is the reproach of any people: That he would turn us from our transgressions and turn his displeasure from us: That he would withhold us from unreasonable discontent, from dissension, faction, sedition, and insurrection: That he would preserve our country from the desolating sword: That he would save our cities and towns from a repetition of those awful pestiferous visitations under which they have lately suffered so severely, and that the health of our inhabitants generally may be precious in his sight: That he would favour us with fruitful seasons, and so bless the labours of the husbandmen as that there may be food in abundance for man and beast: That he would prosper our commerce, manufactures and fisheries, and give success to the people in all their lawful undertakings and enterprises: That he would settle on our colleges, academies, schools and seminaries of learning, and make them nurseries of sound sciences, morals and

religion: That he would bless all magistrates from the highest to the lowest, give them the spirit of their station, make them a terror to evil doers, and a praise to them that do well: That he would preside over the councils of the nation at this critical period, enlighten them to a just discernment of the public interest, and save them from mistake, division and discord: That he would succeed our preparations for defence, and bless our armaments by land and by sea: That he would put an end to the effusion of human blood, and the accumulation of human misery, among the contending nations of the earth, by disposing them to justice, to equity, to benevolence and to peace: And that he would extend the blessings of knowledge, of true liberty, and of pure and undefiled religion, throughout the world.

And I do, also, recommend that with these acts of humiliation, penitence and prayer, fervent thanksgiving to the author of all good be united, for the countless favours which he is still continuing to the people of the United States, and which render their condition as a nation eminently happy, when compared with the lot of others.

Given under my hand and the seal of the United States of America, at the city of Philadelphia, this sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and of the Independence of the said states the twenty-third.

JOHN ADAMS.

By the President,

TIMOTHY PICKERING,
Secretary of State.

In COUNCIL, Annapolis, March 8, 1799.
ORDERED, That the act to alter, abolish and repeal certain parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as are therein mentioned, and the act to alter, abolish and repeal, such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as are therein mentioned, be published once in each week, for the term of three months, in the Maryland Gazette, at Annapolis, the Federal Gazette, at Baltimore, the Rights of Man, at Frederick-town, and the Herald, at Easton, and in Green's and English's paper, at George-town.

By order,
NINIAN PINKNEY, Clerk
of the Council of Maryland.

An ACT to alter, abolish and repeal, certain parts of the constitution and form of government of this state, as are therein mentioned.

WHEREAS the holding elections at any one place in each county of this state is attended with great inconvenience to all citizens remote from said place, and operates to deprive many persons entitled to suffrage from the exercise of that right; and as it is desirable that the full, free and fair voice of the people should be expressed in their choice of the functionaries of government;

II. Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the several counties of this state, for the purpose of holding all future elections for delegates, electors of the senate, and sheriffs of the several counties, shall be divided into separate districts in the manner herein after directed, viz. Saint Mary's county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Kent county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Calvert county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Charles county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Talbot county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Somerset county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Dorchester county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Cecil county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Prince-George's county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Queen-Anne's county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Worcester county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Frederick county shall be divided and laid off into seven separate districts, Harford county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Caroline county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Washington county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Montgomery county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Allegany county shall be divided and laid off into six separate districts.

III. And be it enacted, That Anne-Arundel county, including the city of Annapolis, shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts.

IV. And be it enacted, That Baltimore county, out of the limits of the city of Baltimore, shall be divided and laid off into seven districts, and that the city of Baltimore shall be laid off into eight districts.

V. And be it enacted, That all and every part of the constitution and form of government relating to the judges, time, place and manner, of holding elections, in the city of Baltimore; and all and every part of the second, third, fifth, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government of this state, as also every part of the said constitution and form of government which relate to the judges, place, time and manner, of holding the several elections for delegates, electors of the senate, and sheriffs of the several counties, be and the same are hereby repealed, annulled, and the same shall hereafter be regulated by law.

VI. And be it enacted, That no person possessing the qualification of property required by the constitution shall be entitled to vote at any election to be held for sheriffs, delegates, to the general assembly, or electors of the senate, unless there be some written evidence that he is worth thirty pounds, or a freehold of fifty acres of land, at the time he offers to vote, this written evidence may be any affirmation of property to that amount, which affirmation may be made at any time before such person offers to vote, upon his producing satisfactory testimony of his possessing such property; the manner of making, out, such affirmations, and the person or persons to judge of the qualification, as to property, may be hereafter regulated by law.

VII. And be it enacted, That all parts of the constitution and form of government not herein before enumerated, which are repugnant to, and inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed, annulled and voided.

judges, time, place and manner, of holding elections in the city of Baltimore; and all and every part of the second, third, fifth, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government of this state, which relate to the judges, place, time and manner of holding the several elections for delegates, electors of the senate, and sheriffs of the several counties, be and the same are hereby abrogated, repealed and annulled, and the same shall hereafter be regulated by law.

VI. And be it enacted, That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alteration of the said constitution contained therein, shall be considered as a part, and shall constitute and be valid as a part, of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes; any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

An ACT to alter, abolish and repeal, such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as are therein mentioned.

WHEREAS the holding elections at any one place in each county of this state is attended with great inconvenience to all citizens remote from said place, and operates to deprive many persons entitled to suffrage from the exercise of that right; and as it is desirable that the full, free and fair voice of the people should be expressed in their choice of the functionaries of government;

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VII. And be it enacted, That all parts of the constitution and form of government not herein before enumerated, which are repugnant to, and inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed, annulled and voided.